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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/047,186	10/25/2001	Gary E. Jones	BOEI-1-1011	4190

25315 7590 09/11/2002

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PIASCIK, SUSAN L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
3643	

DATE MAILED: 09/11/2002

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/047,186	JONES, GARY E.
Examiner	Art Unit	
Susan L Piascik	3643	

*-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --*  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### **Status**

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 10/24/2001.

2a) This action is FINAL.                  2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### **Disposition of Claims**

4) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.

4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

PETER M. POON  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 3600

*Pmp*

### **Application Papers**

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on 24 October 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

11) The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) approved b) disapproved by the Examiner.  
     If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.

12) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

### **Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120**

13) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

a) All b) Some \* c) None of:  
     1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
     2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
     3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

14) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e) (to a provisional application).  
     a) The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.

15) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

### **Attachment(s)**

1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) _____ .	4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s) _____. 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ .
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## **DETAILED ACTION**

### ***Drawings***

The drawings are objected to under 37 CFR 1.83(a) because they fail to show concise details, such as the “deformable flange,” as described in the specification. Any structural detail that is essential for a proper understanding of the disclosed invention should be shown in the drawing. The examiner finds the drawings to lack clarity in pictorially describing the invention. MPEP § 608.02(d). A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

### ***Specification***

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- In line 30, page 4, of the instant specification, the word “ore” should be deleted.
- In line 30, page 5, the element number “13” should be changed to --11-- .
- The examiner would appreciate a more clear and concise description (both in the disclosure and the drawings) of the flanges (25, 27, 29, 35 etc.). This feature of the invention remains unclear to the examiner.

Appropriate correction is required.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) do not apply to the examination of this application as the application being examined was not (1) filed on or after November 29, 2000, or (2) voluntarily published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b). Therefore, this application is examined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

Claims 1-4, 7-9 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Stephan et al.

In regards to **claim 1**, Stephan et al. disclose a releasable snap-in window assembly for an aircraft with an inner perimeter that defines an opening (7). The assembly comprises an inner (3), and outer (1) window frame attachable to the sidewall (6) adjacent the inner perimeter. The inner window frame (3) defines a first opening (unnumbered). The outer window frame (1) attachable to the inner window frame (3) adjacent the first opening. The outer window frame (1) defines a second opening (unnumbered).

Regarding **claim 2**, Stephan et al. disclose a window assembly further comprising a releasable coupling means wherein the means includes a shaped flange (32) of the inner window frame (3) attached to the outer side wall (6) and coupled to a deformable flange (33) of the outer window frame (1).

In regards to **claim 3**, Stephan et al. disclose a window assembly wherein the deformable flange (33) is formed in the shape of a hook to engage the shaped flange (32).

Regarding **claim 4**, Stephan et al. teach a window assembly wherein the shaped flange (32) is further attached to the outer sidewall (6) by one or more spring clips (13).

In regards to **claim 7**, Stephan et al. teach a window assembly wherein the outer window frame (1) is attached to the inner window frame (3) by a plurality of fastening devices (31).

Regarding **claim 8**, Stephan et al. disclose a window assembly wherein the fastening devices include snap fasteners (31) releasably secured to an accommodating protrusion on the outer window frame (1) and that further snap over the perimeter of the inner window frame (3).

In regards to **claim 9**, Stephan et al. teach a window assembly wherein the sidewall (6) is a removable sidewall.

In regards to **claim 10**, Stephan et al. disclose a method of releasably coupling a snap-in window assembly to a sidewall (6) of an aircraft comprising attaching an inner window frame (3) to the sidewall(6) adjacent the inner perimeter. The inner window frame (3) defines a first opening (unnumbered). An outer window frame (1) is readily attachable to the inner window frame (3) adjacent the first opening. The outer window frame (1) defines a second opening (unnumbered).

Regarding **claim 11**, Stephan et al. disclose a method further comprising releasably coupling the snap-in window assembly to the sidewall (6) by engaging a shaped flange (32) of the inner window frame (3) attached to the outer side wall (6) and coupled to a deformable flange (33) of the outer window frame (1).

In regards to **claim 12**, Stephan et al. disclose a method wherein the deformable flange (33) is formed in the shape of a hook to engage the shaped flange (32).

Regarding **claim 13**, Stephan et al. teach a method wherein the shaped flange (32) is further attached to the outer sidewall (6) by one or more spring clips (13).

In regards to **claim 16**, Stephan et al. teach a method wherein the outer window frame (1) is attached to the inner window frame (3) by a plurality of fastening devices (31).

Regarding **claim 17**, Stephan et al. disclose a method wherein the fastening devices include snap fasteners (31) releasably secured to an accommodating protrusion on the outer window frame (1) and that further snap over the perimeter of the inner window frame (3).

In regards to **claim 18**, Stephan et al. teach a method wherein the sidewall (6) is a removable sidewall.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 5-6, 14-15 and 19-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Stephan et al. in view of Wakefield.

In regards to **claim 5**, Stephan et al. teach the claimed invention except for specifying the releasable coupling means to further include a pawl latch mechanism. However, it is known in the art of releasable window mechanisms to use arm latch apparatus to disconnect the window from the sidewall portions of the airplane. Wakefield shows this feature in U.S. Patent No. 3,050,790. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the window structure disclosed by Stephan et al., to include a pawl latch mechanism, as shown by Wakefield, in order to provide an easy method of releasing the window from the side wall panel of the aircraft.

Regarding **claim 6**, Stephan et al., as modified, teach a window assembly wherein the pawl latch mechanism further comprises engaging the shaped flange along one or more index points to couple and decouple the window assembly from the outer sidewall. See Wakefield column 3, lines 5-22.

In regards to **claim 14**, Stephan et al. teach the claimed method except for specifying the releasable coupling means to further include a pawl latch mechanism. However, it is known in the art of releasable window mechanisms to use arm latch apparatus to disconnect the window from the sidewall portions of the airplane. Wakefield shows this feature in U.S. Patent No. 3,050,790. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the window structure disclosed by Stephan et al., to include a pawl latch mechanism, as shown by Wakefield, in order to provide an easy method of releasing the window from the side wall panel of the aircraft.

Regarding **claim 15**, Stephan et al., as modified, teach a method wherein the pawl latch mechanism further comprises engaging the shaped flange along one or more index points to couple and decouple the window assembly from the outer sidewall. See Wakefield column 3, lines 5-22.

In regards to **claim 19**, Stephan et al. teach a snap-in window device for an aircraft with an inner perimeter that defines an opening. The assembly comprises an inner window frame (3) attachable to the sidewall (6) adjacent to the inner perimeter. The inner window frame (3) defines a first opening (unnumbered). An outer window frame (1) is readily attachable to the inner window frame (3) by a plurality of fastening devices (31) releasably secured to an accommodating protrusion on the outer window frame (1) and that further snap over the perimeter of the inner window frame (3) adjacent the first opening (unnumbered). The outer window frame (1) defines a second opening (unnumbered). The assembly further comprises means for releasably coupling the outer window frame (1) and the inner window frame (3) within the first opening (unnumbered) wherein the releasable coupling means includes a shaped flange (32) of the inner window frame (3) attached to the outer sidewall (6) by one or more spring clips (13) and coupled to a hook shaped deformable flange (33) of the outer window frame (1). Stephan et al. fail to teach a pawl latch mechanism to further attach the components of the window assembly. However, it is known in the art of releasable window mechanisms to use arm latch apparatus to disconnect the window from the sidewall portions of the airplane. Wakefield shows this feature in U.S. Patent No. 3,050,790. Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the window structure

disclosed by Stephan et al., to include a pawl latch mechanism, as shown by Wakefield, in order to provide an easy method of releasing the window from the side wall panel of the aircraft.

In regards to **claim 20**, Stephan et al. teach a method wherein the sidewall (6) is a removable sidewall.

#### *Citation of Relevant Art*

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

The following patents are cited to further show the state of art with respect to reservoirs and conduits:

U.S. Pat. No. 3,191,241 to Slaman et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 3,906,669 to Vorguitch

U.S. Pat. No. 5,271,581 to Irish

U.S. Pat. No. 5,826,824 to Martin et al.

U.S. Pat. No. 6,168,112 to Mueller et al.

#### *Conclusion*

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Susan L Piascik whose telephone number is (703)305-0299. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30) First Friday Off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Peter Poon can be reached on (703)308-2574. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703)305-7687 for regular communications and (703)305-7687 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703)305-7687.

slp

September 9, 2002

*Peter M. Poon*

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